

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
DUBLIN DIVISION

ANDRE COATES,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
v.	)	CV 316-018
	)	
DODGE COUNTY JAIL; LYNN	)	
SHEFFIELD, Sheriff;	)	
DONALD HELMS, Major;	)	
TOMMY BARRENTINE, Lieutenant;	)	
FNU Law, Captain; and Susan LNU,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

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**MAGISTRATE JUDGE’S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

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Plaintiff, an inmate incarcerated at Dodge County Jail, in Eastman, Georgia, brought the above-captioned case pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. As explained below, the Court **REPORTS** and **RECOMMENDS** this case be dismissed without prejudice.

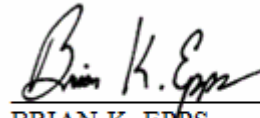
According to Local Rule 4.1, the commencement of a civil action requires compliance with four specific criteria, including the presentation of the original complaint and the appropriate filing fee, or the original complaint and a petition to proceed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”). If a party fails to satisfy these criteria, “the Clerk shall mark the complaint as to the date filed and promptly give notice of the omission to the filing party. Failure to comply within twenty-one (21) calendar days of the date that notice is served by the Clerk may result in dismissal by the Court.” Loc. R. 4.1(1). On March 21, 2016, Plaintiff submitted a complaint to the Clerk of Court without submitting the appropriate filing fee or a request to

proceed IFP. The Clerk opened the above-captioned case on the Court's civil docket and sent Plaintiff a deficiency notice concerning the need for an IFP motion or payment of the filing fee. (See doc. no. 2.) Plaintiff was cautioned that failure to cure the filing deficiency within twenty-one days could result in dismissal of his case. (See id.) However, Plaintiff has not responded to the Clerk's notice.

A district court has authority to manage its docket to expeditiously resolve cases, and this authority includes the power to dismiss a case for failure to prosecute or failure to comply with a court order. Equity Lifestyle Props., Inc. v. Fla. Mowing & Landscape Serv., Inc., 556 F.3d 1232, 1240 (11th Cir. 2009) (citing Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b)); see also Hyler v. Reynolds Metal Co., 434 F.2d 1064, 1065 (5th Cir. 1970) ("It is well settled that a district court has inherent power to dismiss a case for failure to prosecute . . ."). Moreover, the Local Rules of the Southern District of Georgia dictate that an "assigned Judge may, after notice to counsel of record, *sua sponte* . . . dismiss any action for want of prosecution, with or without prejudice . . . [for] failure to prosecute a civil action with reasonable promptness." Loc. R. 41.1(c). Plaintiff failed to comply with the requirements for commencing a civil action by submitting an appropriate filing fee or motion to proceed IFP with his complaint, and when given the opportunity to submit the appropriate paperwork, he failed to respond. Plaintiff's failure to comply with the filing requirements of the Local Rules and his failure to respond to the Clerk's deficiency notice amounts not only to a failure to prosecute, but also an abandonment of his case. Accordingly, the Court **REPORTS** and **RECOMMENDS** that

this case be **DISMISSED** without prejudice and that this civil action be **CLOSED**.

SO REPORTED and RECOMMENDED this 21st day of April, 2016, at Augusta,  
Georgia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian K. Epps", written over a horizontal line.

BRIAN K. EPPS  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA